Ministry of Food Processing Industries is also operating a Scheme for Strengthening backward linkages between the farmers and the processors in the Fruit & Vegetables Processing Sector. So far, no proposal in this regard has been received from the State of Gujarat. However, assistance has been provided for establishing agro parlours by Gujarat Agro Industries Corporation Limited.

Oil Fields Handed Over to private Consortia

2986. SHRI PARAG CHALIHA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether certain oilfields have been handed over to the private consortia at the instance of the World Bank;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the circumstances leading thereto; and

(c) the loss incurred by ONGC on account of handing over of some oilfields to the private consortia?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) to (c) Discovered oil fields have offered for development by joint ventures in pursuance of a policy decision of the Government. These fields have been awarded through international competitive bidding. In the bids, signature and production bonuses are bid able in and proceeds on these accounts go to ONGC. In addition, wherever the economics of the project so permits, there had been separate compensation for past costs incurred to ONGC.

The reasons for offering these fields for private participation include:

(i) Marginal economics of some of the fields.

(ii) Low reserves of the small fields offered.

(iii) To augment total investment in exploration and development.

(iv) To help augment the oil / gas production by way of quickly putting these fields on production.

(v) For the application of enhanced oil recovery processes.

(vi) To induct the latest managerial and technological practices.

उत्तराखंड क्षेत्र में भूकंपी केन्द्र

2987. **चौधरी चुन्नी लाल:**
श्री नरेन्द्र मोहन:

क्या विज्ञान और प्रौद्योगिकी मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या भूकंपो का पूर्वानुमान लगाने के लिए उत्तराखंड क्षेत्र में भूकंपी केन्द्र स्थापित किए गए हैं; यदि हां, तो क्या इन केन्द्रों में आधुनिकतम उपकरण हैं; और

(ख) क्या उत्तर प्रदेश सरकार ने इन भूकंपी केन्द्रों की स्थापना के लिए भारत सरकार से कोई सहयोग मांगा है?

योजना और कार्यक्रम कार्यान्वयन मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री तथा विज्ञान एवं प्रौद्योगिकी मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (श्री योगेन्द्र के० अलघ): (क) भूकम्पों का पूर्वानुमान लगाने के लिए कोई वैज्ञानिक तकनीक उपलब्ध नहीं है। भारत मौसम विज्ञान विभाग का उत्तर प्रदेश राज्य और इसके आसपास के क्षेत्रों में हल्की भूकम्पीय गतिविधियों को मानीटर करने के लिए सात मौसम वैज्ञानिक वैधशालाओं का एक तंत्र कार्य कर रहा है। इनमें से तीन उत्तर प्रदेश के पहाड़ों में स्थित हैं। रूड़की विश्वविद्यालय, वाडिया हिमालय भूविज्ञान संस्थान और राज्य सरकार परियोजना प्राधिकरण जैसे अन्य अभिकरण भी उत्तर प्रदेश के पहाड़ी क्षेत्रों में तेरह भूकम्प विज्ञान वेधशालाएं चला रहे हैं। ये वेधशालाएं परिष्कृत उपकरणों से लैस हैं।

(ख) जी, नहीं।

[**The Deputy Chairman** in the Chair]

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

Notifications of the Ministry of Finance (Deptt. of Revenue)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN): On behalf of SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM, Madam, I lay on the Table a copy (in English and Hindi) of the Ministry of Finance (Department of Revenue), Notification S.O. No. 854(E), dated the 6th December, 1996, publishing the Income-Tax

(Eighth Amendment) Rules, 1996, under Section 296 of the Income-Tax Act, 1961.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT-1219/96]

II. A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following Notifications of the Ministry of Finance (Department of Revenue) under Section 159 of the Customs Act, 1962 together with explanatory memoranda on the Notifications:—

(1) G.S.R. No. 456(E), dated 8th October, 1996, exempting from duty special industrial adhesives, gum and solutions and synthetic diamond power upto 1% of the Free on Board (FOB) value of the export of cut and polished diamonds, when imported into India by the exporters of cut and polished diamonds operating under "Diamond Credit Book Scheme".

(2) G.S.R. No. 528(E), dated 19th November, 1996, seeking to further amend notification No. 13/81-Customs dated 9.2.1981 respectively to include the process for data analysis and data management as eligible activities apart from software development for the purpose of customs duty exemption in respect of these notification.

(3) G.S.R. No. 529(E) dated 19th November, 1996 seeking to further amend Notification NO. 138/91-Customs dated 22.10.1991 respectively to include the process of data entry and conversion, data processing data analysis and data management as eligible activities apart from software development for the purpose of customs duty exemption in respect of these notification.

(4) G.S.R. No. 504(E), dated 31st October, 1996, publishing the Customs and Central Excise Duties Drawback (Third Amendment) Rules, 1996.

(5) G.S.R. No. 526(E), dated 18th November, 1996 regarding undertaking of Jobbing in accordance with the procedure set out in the Customs (Import of Goods at Concessional Rate of Duty for Manufacture of excisable Goods) Rules, 1996.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT-1216/96] for (1) to (5)

(I) Report and Accounts 1995-96 of the Artificial Limbs Manufacturing Corporation of Inda, Kanpur and Related Papers

(II) Report and Accounts 1995-96 of the Tribal Cooperative Marketing Development Federation of Indai Ltd., New Delhi and Related papers

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA): I lay on the Table a copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers:—

(i) (a) Twenty-third Annual Report and Accounts of the Artificial Limbs Manufacturing Corporation of India, Kanpur, for the year 1995-96 together with the Auditors' Report on the Accounts.

(b) Review by Government on the working of the above Corporation.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT-1201/96]

(ii) (a) Eighth Annual Report and Accounts of the Tribal Cooperative Marketing Development Federation of India Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1995-96 together with the Auditors's Report on the Accounts.

(b) Review by Government on the working of the above Federation.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT-1078/96]

Report and Accounts 1995-96 of the Air India Ltd., New Delhi and Related Papers

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGENDER K. ALAGH): On behalf of SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM, Madam, I lay on the Table—

I. A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers, under sub- section (1) of section 619A of the Companies